

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 151918

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO DA WASH DC/DAMO SSM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 151918

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 151918 ACTION USUN NEW YORK INFO CAIRO
DAMASCUS JERUSALEM SECDEF OASD JCS AND DOD 27 JUN 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 151918

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MARR, UR, UN, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET UNTSO OBSERVERS

1. DURING DEPT OF ARMY STAFF VISIT TO UNTSO THIS JUNE, IT WAS LEARNED THAT ALL 25 REMAINING SOVIET OBSERVERS FROM ORIGINAL CONTINGENT OF 36 ASSIGNED IN NOVEMBER 73 HAVE REQUESTED A THIRD YEAR EXTENSION. UNTSO POLICY NORMALLY PERMITS THIRD YEAR EXTENSIONS ONLY FOR PERSONNEL IN STAFF POSITIONS. ONLY THREE OF THE 25 SOVIET OFFICERS ARE SERVING ON UNTSO STAFFS IN DAMASCUS AND CAIRO.
2. FYI. MG LILJESTRAND REPORTEDLY ACQUIESCED IN THE REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED NY APPROVE A POLICY EXCEPTION AFTER VISITING OFFICERS FROM MOSCOW INDICATED THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 151918

USSR WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY FINDING QUALIFIED REPLACEMENTS.

END FYI. SHOULD UNHQ APPROVE THE EXTENSIONS, SOVIET OFFICERS WOULD BE ASSURED SENIORITY ON VIRTUALLY ALL UNTSO PATROL AND INSPECTION TEAMS IN EGYPT AND UNTSO ACTIVITIES IN SYRIA.

3. YOU SHOULD CONTACT APPROPRIATE UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS AND REMIND THEM THAT US AND SOVIET AUGMENTATIONS TO UNTSO IN NOVEMBER 1973 WERE MADE UNDER THE STIPULATION THAT

THESE OFFICERS WERE TO SERVE UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS APPLYING TO OBSERVERS FROM OTHER NATIONS AND THAT NO SPECIAL PRIVILEGES WERE TO BE ACCORDED EITHER CONTINGENT. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT THE US OBJECTS TO A BLANKET EXCEPTION OF UNTSO POLICY FOR THE SOVIET CONTINGENT.

4. FYI. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT UNTSO HAS RECOMMENDED TO NY THAT ALL NATIONAL CONTINGENTS BE REDUCED TO 25 MINIMUM IN LINE WITH THE UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY FINLAND. END FYI. IF THIS SORT OF REDUCTION IS PROPOSED TO YOU BY SECRETARIAT, YOU MAY INFORM THEM THAT SUCH A REDUCTION IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE US IF THE EXISTING US/USSR PARITY IS MAINTAINED. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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